



# Ravalli County 4-H Teen Newsletter

Winter/Spring 2010

Hello Teens!

Welcome to the first Teen Newsletter! There are a lot of fun activities and events geared specifically for teens this spring and summer. We wanted you to know about these opportunities and encourage you to take advantage of them. The 4-H Program offers youth unique events to partner with adults and leaders to develop, hone and enhance life skills.

Please take a moment to read through this Teen Newsletter and take advantage of at least one event that is occurring in Ravalli County. Step outside of your comfort zone and step into a new situation. I guarantee that at least one other Ravalli County 4-H member will be there to enjoy the event with you.

If you have any questions about events in this newsletter, please feel free to contact our office by phone or email.

Have a wonderful spring!

**Katelyn Andersen**  
MSU Extension Agent



## Step Into Leadership with Teen Council

Teen Council is an amazing opportunity to work with other teen leaders from around the valley. We meet about once a month or less and plan events and activities for the county such as Cloverbud Day and Jr. Rec Lab. Our focus is to provide county members with more opportunities, and while we work hard and accomplish a lot, we always have fun. By coming together, teens from different clubs can share ideas and accomplish goals that one teen cannot do alone. If you are interested in becoming part of the action give Terry Halstead a call at (406) 240-2878. The next meeting is on Thursday, March 18 at 6:30 PM at Terry Halstead's Home. You can join at any time, and we would love to have you!

**Taylor Skupert**  
Senior 4-H Ambassador, 2009-2010

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### What's Inside

Calendar, Local Teen Opportunities	2
Local Teen Opportunities	3
Leadership Training	4
Montana 4-H State Opportunities for Teens	5
Montana 4-H Scholarships	6



### Contact Us

**Katelyn Andersen**  
**Bobbie Roos**  
Extension Agents  
MSU Ravalli County Extension  
215 South 4th Street Suite G  
Hamilton, MT 59840  
(406) 375-6611  
katelyna@montana.edu  
broos@montana.edu  
ravalli@montana.edu  
[www.msueextension.org](http://www.msueextension.org)  
[www.montana4h.org](http://www.montana4h.org)



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### March

**March 18**—Teen Council Meeting, p. 1

**March 19**—Youth Director Application Due, p. 3, 4

**March 27**—Youth Leadership Training, p. 2

**March 27**—Junior Camp Counselor Application due, p. 3, 4

**March 27**—Teen Camp Focus Group Meeting, p. 3

### April

**April 1**—Montana 4-H Scholarship Due, p. 6

**April 1**—County Ambassador Application Due, p. 2

**April 5**—First Camp Planning Meeting, p. 3

**April 16-18**—Montana 4-H Rec Lab, p. 5

### May and Beyond

**May 10**—Build Your Resume Through 4-H, p. 3

**June 15-18**—Teen 4-H Camp, p. 3

**July 6-9**—Montana 4-H Congress, p. 5

## It is time to select our new County Junior Ambassador!

### Don't know if this is right for you? Take this simple quiz:

- Are you a 4-H member who is at least age 14 (as of 10/01/09)?
- Are you excited about 4-H and all the opportunities 4-H has to offer?
- Would you like to get other 4-H members excited about 4-H?
- Would you like to promote 4-H to the community?
- Do you want to meet and work with 4-H members from other Montana counties?

If you answered **YES** to any of these questions consider applying to be the new Ravalli County 4-H Junior Ambassador.

The position requires a 2 year commitment (The Junior Ambassador becomes the Senior Ambassador the next year). Ambassadors attend **Fall Training** (lots of fun) during the October school break at Fairmont. They get to go to **Congress** and hang out with out 4 -H members and ambassadors (even more fun!) They create a plan of action and then spend the year fulfilling that plan. The job requires commitment, enthusiasm, the desire to lead others, work hard and **HAVE FUN!**

Applications are due April 1, 2010. If you think this is for you, contact the Extension Office 375-6611 for an application. If you would like to have one of the ambassador contact you about their position, please call the Extension Office for details. Interviews will be set up mid April.

## Youth Leadership Training

**When:** Saturday, March 27, 10 AM to 3:00 PM

**Where:** Ravalli County Extension Office

**Who:** Youth 4-H Age 13 and older, 4-H parents and leaders can attend the training!

**What to Bring:** All needed items are provided. Snacks and lunch provided. Requests for special accommodations must be made to the Extension Office prior to activity.

**RSVP:** Wednesday, March 24

Whether you are working in a group or one-on-one, leadership skills are necessary for success! This one-day workshop is designed for youth who are interested in working with others – on any level. Participants will:

- Learn to recognize characteristics of yourself and others using Real Color Personality Assessment
- Discover communication tools and the elements of being a leader
- Meet other teens in the 4-H Program, and much more

**Please RSVP for this training by Wednesday, March 24 to the Extension Office, 375-6611 in order for materials to be prepared for your participation.**

## 4-H Camp 2010 Seeking Counselors and Chaperones!

It's time to start planning for the 2010 4-H Camp! This year's 4-H Junior Camp will be held July 27-30 at Loon Lake, near Bigfork. Job descriptions and applications are available at the Ravalli County 4-H website and will be mailed (electronically or postal) to those who request it.

**Who:** Counselors (open to all youth 4-H Age 14 and up)  
Chaperones (must be 21 or older and a screened volunteer)

**Counselor Applications:** Due Saturday, March 27. If you need assistance, please contact the Extension Office.

**Youth Director Applications:** Due Saturday, March 20. Applicants must have previous experience as Ravalli County 4-H Camp Counselor. Youth Director Interviews will take place on March 27 before the training.

**Counselor Training:** All youth interested in becoming a Counselor must attend the Youth Leadership Training on Saturday, March 27 from 10 AM to 3:00 PM at Ravalli County Extension Office (see page 2 for more details). Lunch provided. Requests for special accommodations must be made to the Extension Office prior to activity.

**Counselor Selection:** Community leaders will compose the Counselor Selection Committee (CSC) and will participate in the Youth Leadership Training. After the training, the CSC will discuss the applicants and make recommendations to Extension staff who will announce the 2010 Junior Camp Counselor Team within one week of the training. Each Counselor applicant will be notified.

**Chaperones:** If you are interested in being a camp chaperone, it is strongly encouraged to attend the Youth Leadership Training on March 27 and the camp planning meetings.

**Future Counselor Dates:** Counselors are required to attend; chaperones and parents are strongly encouraged to attend

**Camp Planning Dates:** The first planning meeting is April 5, 6:30 to 8:30 at the Extension Meeting Room, with April 27 and May 13 being tentative planning dates

**Overnight Retreat:** Tentatively scheduled for June 28-29, location yet to be determined

Please see Leadership Training and Junior Camp Counselor Selection 2010 on page 4 for more details about 4-H Camp 2010. Any questions can be directed to the Extension Office, 375-6611

### Build Your Resume Through 4-H

**When:** May 10, 6-7:30 PM

**Location:** Bitterroot Job Service (new location)  
274 Old Corvallis Road, Hamilton

**Who:** 4-H member, leaders and teens!

**What to bring:** your record books for reference

4-H gives you a step-up in the job market with the skills you build from working with others in your club, setting goals for your projects, leading workshops and much more! Patti Furniss, BR Job Service Director and past 4-H leader, will show you how you to show off the skills you've learned through 4-H!

### Save the Date: Teen 4-H Camp June 15-18, 2010, Loon Lake 4-H Camp Focus Group Meeting: March 27

The 2010 4-H Camp Opportunity for teens (4-H Age 13 and older) will have a new direction. Come join the discussion over lunch on Saturday, March 27 at 12:30, Extension Meeting Room.

The discussion will include deciding the focus for the Teen Camp and recruitment ideas with Campbell Barrett, Missoula County 4-H Agent and Katelyn Andersen, Ravalli County 4-H Agent.

We will meet again during 2010 Rec Lab—date and time will be decided at the March 27 meeting.

Questions? Contact the Ravalli County Extension Office, 375-6611 or Missoula County Extension Office, 258-4203.

## Leadership Training and Junior Camp Counselor Selection 2010

### Counselor Application Notification **March 1, 2010**

- All youth 4-H Age 13 and older will be notified via Special Addition Teen Newsletter about 2010 4-H Camp Counselor Opportunity and Youth Leadership Training
- Special Addition Teen Newsletter will be sent by Monday, March 1, 2010
- Counselor application will be available on the Ravalli County 4-H Website and will be mailed (postal and electronically) to those who request it

### Youth Co-Director Selection **March 19 and 27, 2010**

- Youth Co-Director applications will be due on Friday, March 19 by 5:00 PM to the Extension Office
- Youth Co-Director interviews will be scheduled for March 27 prior to the Youth Leadership Training
- One Male Youth Co-Director and one Female Youth Co-Director will be selected by the CSC

### Counselor Selection **March 27, 2010**

- Counselor applications will be due on the day of the Youth Leadership Training
- Community leaders will compose the Counselor Selection Committee (CSC)
- The CSC will participate in the Youth Leadership Training
- Each Counselor applicant will be assigned a number for identification purposes to create a non-biased environment
- After the training, the CSC will discuss the applicants and make recommendations to Extension staff who will announce the 2010 Junior Camp Counselor Team within one week of the training
- Each Counselor applicant will be notified

### Counselor Training **March 27, 2010**

- Youth Leadership Training will be applicable for all youth 4-H age 13 and older, parents and adults who are interested in working with others
- All Ravalli County youth, parents and adults can attend the training
- Camp specific training will be offered at the Camp Overnight Retreat
- Curriculum: Essential Elements, Survival Guide for 4-H Camp Leaders
- Instructors: 4-H Leaders, community members and Extension Agents

### Camp Planning

- The first planning meeting will be Monday, April 5, 6:30-8:30 PM at the Extension Office
- Tentative planning dates: Tuesday, April 27; Thursday, May 13 at the Extension Office
- Counselors are required to attend; chaperones and parents are strongly encouraged to attend

### Camp Overnight Retreat

- Retreat will be held June 28-29 at a location yet to be determined
- Counselors are required to attend; chaperones and parents are strongly encouraged to attend

### Prior to selection as camp chaperone, adults will be asked to:

- Camp chaperones will have a leadership role at the planning meetings and at the Junior Camp by facilitating camp programs. Examples: Flag Ceremony, Evening Program, Campfires, Camp Chores, Workshops, etc.
- Each chaperone will mentor the counselors responsible for the various camp programs and event teams, in addition to their responsibility as a chaperone.
- All chaperones will support and respond constructively to the guidance and directives of the Camper Director and Youth Co-Directors.
- Chaperones will be expected to abide by the camp policies and procedures and encourage Counselors and campers to do the same.
- Chaperones will notify the Camp Director immediately of any serious issues/concerns that are risk management issues or could jeopardize the health or well-being of any camp participants.



## “State 4-H Rec Lab 2010: “Spark Your Imagination!”

**April 16-18, 2010, Corvallis, MT**

**Who:** Youth 4-H Age 13 and older **Your Cost:** \$10, see below for details  
**Registration Deadline:** March 12, 2010

Spark your Imagination and register today to attend the 2010 Montana 4-H Rec Lab! Mark Heyka, KECI TV First Alert Meteorologist and 11 year 4-H Alumni will kick off Rec Lab on Saturday, April 17, 2010. Over thirty different workshops are being offered over the course of five sessions ranging from archery and photography to the culinary arts and a scavenger hunt!

Rec Lab provides youth an opportunity to meet other youth from across the state, develop leadership skills, and learn fun recreational activities that can be used in club settings, county events and at other unexpected moments. Rec Lab is for youth 13 years of age or older as of October 1, 2009.

The registration fee is \$50.00 and The Ravalli County 4-H Advisory Council is paying for \$40 of your costs to attend this opportunity! Lodging, workshop fees, meals, and a t-shirt are included in the registration fee. Be sure to mark your workshops, as they are determined on a first-come, first-serve basis.

**Event details and the registration form will be available online at [www.montana4h.org](http://www.montana4h.org).** Go to Events, Montana 4-H Rec Lab. Registration materials are also available thru the Extension Office. Space is limited so registrations will be taken first come first serve basis even if you register on line. For more information or to get registration materials please call 375-6611.

**Parents and Teen Leaders:** Since Ravalli County is hosting the site for this wonderful event, please contact Heather Hudson, District One Key Leader at [zhudson@aol.com](mailto:zhudson@aol.com) to help out!

## Montana 4-H Congress 2010

July 6-9, 2010

**Where:** Montana State University in Bozeman

**Registration Deadline:** mid-July, official date TBA

**Who:** Open to all members 4-H age 14-19.

Montana 4-H Congress has been going on for over 75 years! This event includes Workshops, contests, entertainment, social events, and the opportunity to recognize all State Award Winners as well as 4-H Foundation Scholarship Winners.

**So how do you get to Congress?** Compete in one of the competition areas (dates are listed below) on the local level in Stir-Ups, Fashion Revue, Quilting and Speech and Demo. Or create a team on your own in any of the other area.

### Areas and dates of local competitions:

**Stir-Ups (Ravalli County's 4-H Cook Off):** Saturday, April 10, Stevensville

**Fashion Revue and Quilting:** Thursday, May 27, Corvallis

**Public Speaking, Demonstration, Illustrated Talks:** TBA

**Gavel Games, Livestock Judging, Horse Judging, Horse Skill-A-Thon:** These consist of a team. One team per area will go to Congress. If you are interested in creating a team, contact the Office by May 30, 2010.

Visit [www.montana4h.org](http://www.montana4h.org) for more information!



Montana 4-H Foundation Scholarships

Due: April 1, 2010

- Douglas A. Dear Scholarship
- MT Agri-Business Scholarship
- MT Wheat & Barley Scholarship
- Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply Scholarship
- Wilcox Family Scholarship
- N.A. Jacobsen Scholarship
- MT 4-H Shooting Sports Scholarship

\*Please provide two week notice if you are requesting a letter of reference from our office. Thank you!

Due April 1, 2010 to Montana 4-H Foundation.

Application details available online at [www.montana4h.org/#program:30](http://www.montana4h.org/#program:30)

"A world in which youth and adults learn, grow and work together as catalysts for positive change."

• 4-H Vision

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4-H: The Youth Development Program of MSU Extension

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Ravalli County Extension Office  
215 S 4th St., Suite G  
Hamilton, MT 59840



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